Weekends at Pilot Mountain State Park

November 1 to 29, 2020

Pilot Mountain State Park is at capacity most weekends. This guide outlines what to expect when you visit during the weekends, and page 2 has a list of alternatives should the park be full when you arrive for your visit.

Parking rules on weekends:

- The Summit parking lot is open to vehicles from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. on weekends and holidays in November.
- From 9 a.m. to closing on weekends and holidays, no visitor vehicles are permitted uphill past the visitor center parking lot.
- Oversized vehicles are not permitted at the Summit parking lot on weekends and holidays.
- Expect a wait for parking on weekends and holidays. We recommend arriving early or later in the day. We also recommend visiting on weekdays if you can.
- Once the lower parking lot fills, cars will only be let in as space allows.

Shuttle information:

The park's shuttle service takes visitors from the new visitor center parking lot to the Summit area.

The shuttle is available every Saturday, Sunday and state holidays until the end of November.

The round-trip fare for adults is \$5. One-way tickets are available for \$2.50. Kids 13 and under ride free.

Purchase shuttle tickets

View the shuttle schedule

On weekends and holidays, visitor vehicles are not allowed uphill past the visitor center after 9 a.m. You must park at the visitor center parking lot and either utilize the shuttle service or hike up if you want to access the Summit area.

Satellite parking lots

Pilot Creek access

382 Boyd Nelson Road Pinnacle, NC 27043

- » access to Pilot Creek Trail
- » 15 cars

Pinnacle Hotel Rd / Culler Road

134 Culler Road Pinnacle, NC 27043

- » Mountain and Corridor trails
- » 50 cars

Hauser Road

622 Hauser Road Pinnacle, NC 27043

- » Corridor Trail
- » north river section
- » 40 cars

Ivy Bluff access

4240 Shoals Road East Bend, NC 27018

- » south river section
- » 20 cars

Ivy Bluff canoe

4454 Shoals Road East Bend, NC 27018

- » fishing and canoe access
- » 10 cars

Can't get into Pilot Mountain State Park on a busy weekend? You may also enjoy:

Yadkin River Section at Bean Shoals access

The oldest contiguous canal remnants in NC can be seen after a short hike on the canal trail.

Exit 129 off U.S. 52 South 10 miles south

Blue Ridge Parkway

Enjoy this scenic drive, offering stunning long-range vistas and views of the Appalachian landscape. Be sure to check out Cumberland Knob (first developed recreation area on the parkway), Mabry Mill, and the Blue Ridge Music Center.

21 miles on U.S. 52 North

Downtown Mount Airy

Walk downtown, enjoy shops and restaurants, the historic Earle Theater and the Mount Airy Museum of History

14 miles north on U.S. 52

Fishing

Ararat, Fisher, Mitchell or Yadkin rivers. Visit the NCWRC map of public accesses »

Hanging Rock State Park

One of North Carolina's oldest state parks, offering waterfalls, fishing, swimming, paddling, and rock climbing.

1790 Hanging Rock Park Road Danbury, NC 27016 22 miles east

Horne Creek Farm State Historic Site

Restored 19th century farm features a glimpse into farm life of the 1800s. Open Tuesday to Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

308 Horne Creek Farm Road Pinnacle, NC 27043 9 miles south

Nelson Acres Town Park

Downtown Pilot Mountain park offering trails & disc golf course.

873 W. 52 Bypass Pilot Mountain, NC 5 miles north

More ideas and information

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